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(WRITTEN FOR THE JOURNAL.)

GOD IS JUST.

BY C. E. HAYES.

All nature speaks God's boundless love.
All nature, too, His mercies prove;
The whispering breeze, the brooklets' flow,
His presence speak, His kindness show.

Delightful is the pleasant view,
The unfolding flower, the morning dew,
The lofty mountain, the fertile plain,
The pleasant sunshine, and the rain.

But not alone his works so fair
His loving kindness all declare;
His wrath, as well, at sin displayed,
When wisdom's laws are disobeyed.

The blasted trunk, the wild wind roar,
The raging surf on Ocean's shore,
The barren rock, the fearful flood,
Foretell the justice of our God!

The mighty whirlpools gulphing this,
The torrent on the mountain side,
The solitudes of moor and waste,
And dreary wastes, are his decrees.

The raging earthquakes thundering loud,
The fierce volcanoes fiery shroud,
The buried cities of the plain
Are solemn warnings, not in vain.

Whom most we love the soonest die,
The proudest in the grave must lie,
Dust unto dust the mortal frame
Mankind, for respite, vainly plead.

Then show the way that smooth and wide,
Trust not delusions treacherous tide,
Nor blindly on God's love rely,
His justice sleeps, but cannot die!

Westfield, Normal School, June 1863.

A Journey Through the Confed- eracy.

THE STORY OF A CAPTURED CORRESPONDENT.

From the narrative of the released
correspondent of the *World*, who was
captured while running the batteries at
Vicksburg, some weeks ago, we quote
the following interesting statements:

III.—INTERIOR OF THE CON- FEDERACY.

Our journey to Atlanta was without
marked interest. Morning and evening,
for three days, we passed a regi-
ment of infantry encamped at the ter-
minus. About six thousand in all may
have passed. These were the rein-
forcements for Vicksburg, which have
since been collected by Joe Johnston
north of Jackson. They hailed from
Savannah and Edisto Inlet. On one
train we noticed a large rifled English
siege piece. On the 14th we passed
Gen. Johnston and staff at Montgomery.

Railroad traveling is so bad that we
think 1500 a day would be the maxi-
mum of troops which could be carried
over the road from McDowell's Land-
ing on the Tombigbee to Brandon,
where here the southern road is cut.
Provisions could only be taken through
in very small quantities, and there are
no troops nearer than Mobile to
Charleston. The impression prevails
with some that the railroads in the
South are all of one gauge and that the
rolling stock taken below is all avail-
able throughout the length and breadth
of the Confederacy.

This is not the case; a break of
gauge occurs between West Point and
Montgomery. Changes are inevitable
between the latter place and Selma,
a hundred and fifty miles, which is
performed by boats on the Alabama
river. Another break occurs on the
Tombigbee below Demopolis. Atlanta
is a large railroad center. Towards
this point Col. Straight was marching
when he was arrested by Forrest; and
the alarm which it caused through the
central section shows how much dan-
ger the rebels have to apprehend from
these raids.

ALABAMA AND GEORGIA.

Our predecessors in Atlanta prison
were the officers and crew of the Indi-
anola. Lieut. Commanding Brown
was especially favored in his trip over
the country. It is due to him to say
that it was probably on account of his
having fought his vessel so ably. As
we learn from the crew he made a
desperate resistance before being
taken, surrendering only when his boat
was sinking. Three runs, the Queen
of the West, Webb and D. Baty, at-
tacked him on a very dark night, and
after five successive blows damaged the
machinery and hull so as to be help-
less. He killed quite a number of per-
sons on board the rebel boats by means
of his eleven-inch shells. Neither of
the guns were taken from the Indian-
ola by the enemy.

At Montgomery we bathed under
the shadow of a formidable gunboat,
half finished, in which it is said the en-
gines of the famous City of Vicksburg
are to be placed. Five others are
reported to be at Mobile, 550 miles be-
low, some of them rams.

Hitherto we had been allowed to
room very much at our will in the un-
fortified towns. At Jackson we were
called on by many anxious inquirers.
At Selma our official escort received
instructions that "these gentlemen"
were not in his custody, but under his
escort. At Montgomery we stopped
at the Exchange Hotel, where, by the
way, we received the first semblance
of a meal, although we paid \$1.50 and
\$2 many times to sit down to a table.
On registering our names from New
York and our officers from Ohio, an
immense crowd gathered round, but
no incoherence was thrust upon us;
on the contrary, the most of the rebel
officers and civilians showed a remark-
able disposition to talk with us very
cordially.

ATLANTA MILITARY PRISON.

On reaching Atlanta, however, all
this was changed. The officers and

men of Straight and of the Indianola
had been so treated and well treated by
the people as to breed the most intense
dislike among the authorities and hot-
headed fanatics. We were placed in
a room in the military prison, depriv-
ed of papers and prohibited conversa-
tion with outsiders. We sent out for
papers, and our note was passed into
the hands of a scoundrel fellow whose
reputation had not been bettered since
his exit from Vermont, the editor of
the *Confederacy*, who thereupon pen-
ned an article exposing the infamous
atrocity of our officers, and urged that
we be hanged, offering to assist at the
interesting ceremony. This created
some feeling in the place, but in spite
of this we got papers and received
other pleasant assurances in Atlanta,
and got through without being mole-
sted.

The country through which we passed
is not thickly settled. The towns,
when we come to them, are quite neat.
The vegetation is luxurious, the pine,
magnolia and other semi-tropical vege-
tation being quite common. The
houses are mostly poor. Very rarely
are the houses ornamented by gardens
and shrubbery. Fruits we had some-
times, such as blackberries and straw-
berries. The crops look well, corn
being the greater portion of the arable
land. Not a tenth or perhaps even a
twentieth of the cotton usually raised
has been planted. Very little tobacco
in West Virginia and East Tennessee.
There will be no positive starva-
tion in the South so long as they have
so much corn, but there will be a short-
ness of many things painful to bear.
Verily man shall not live on bread alone.

The following schedule of prices
tells the story of the blockade on the
one hand, and the state of a financial
bankruptcy on the other:

Board in Vicksburg, \$10 per day;
Richmond, \$10; cheapest, \$100 per
month. Sugar, retail, \$1.75; flour,
\$55 per barrel; rice, 20c; molasses, \$12;
eggs, \$2; Rio coffee, \$5; shoes, com-
mon army, \$25; hats, \$25; dried ap-
ples, 80c; bacon, \$1.60 per lb.

It is amusing to hear the newspa-
pers charge upon the federal govern-
ment the contingent sin of starving the
women and children of the South,
when we reflect that the rebel govern-
ment has seized whatever it needs of
food paying its own price therefor.
The army must be fed first, clothed
first; if aught remains, feed the aged,
the youth, and negroes.

The negro, we discovered, is of the
greatest service to these people in car-
rying on war. He is employed on
railroads, machinery, transportation,
and manufactures. We have seen
one of them driving a locomotive. We
saw none armed, but heard of them
in South Carolina.

IV.—THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE.

I have been asked many times as to
whether there be any "Union senti-
ment at the South." It is only the
truth to say that a great majority of
the higher class people of the South
are unanimous in their belief in the
virtue, wisdom and justice of their
cause. They profess to believe in
Southern "independence." Southern
wealth, and eventual Union "sentiment"
at the South, but it has, like
many other sentiments, very little ex-
pression. The South has all the union
it needs to carry on war. In a military
sense the South is united.

Yet there are Union men and Union
women in the South. They are con-
fined to no section, but abound most
in the region described in a circuit of
a hundred and fifty miles round Atlan-
ta. Northern Alabama, Northern
Georgia, East Tennessee, and Western
Virginia contain them; *Richmond itself*
does in numbers. We have dis-
covered the best evidence of it in
many instances. When traveling
along the route and the proprietors of
eating-houses secretly thrust back the
money into our hands; when men
came up and shake us warmly by the
hand and entreat us to represent to the
North the need of pressing on; where
they send us bouquets and other friend-
ly assurances, we feel in a special
sense the profoundness of this "sentiment." But our experience is tame
beside that of the gallant officers and
men of the Indianola and the "raid-
ers" under Colonel Straight. These
people had bouquets with money con-
cealed in them, thrown to them; the
tars had plugs of tobacco, offerings of
food, and other substantial.

CONFEDERATE CURRENCY.

One of the best evidences of a ling-
ering faith in the United States is the
fact that "green-backs" sold readily in
almost every place at from two to five
dollars for one—usually the former
rate. Vast quantities of their treas-
ury notes are being converted into in-
terest bearing bonds, under the impres-
sion that these have some value in
Europe. A vast amount has also
been changed to land, sugar, cotton,
real property, anything but negroes—
all of which has gone up to surprise prices,
while the latter is a "drug in the market."
The enormous and rapidly
increasing depreciation of the
Southern money is the most alarming
symptoms of their want of confidence
in it. It is vain and useless to try
and attribute the rates of premium on
our money to the illegitimate trade
with the North by the blockade run-
ners. The quotations as against gold,
against articles of produce, give the
lie. Either these people must admit

that the necessities of life are getting
rapidly and fearfully scarce, or that
they do not put faith in the intrinsic
value of their circulating medium.

OPINIONS AND IMPRESSIONS.

Of the existence of some Union
feeling, I am assured by the South-
erners themselves. It is not large,
but, like that of Kentucky, genuine,
intense, what remains of it. Many
very many persons of rank and intel-
ligence were accustomed to get our
little party into a conversation as quiet
as possible, and put it to us seriously
what we thought of the chances of the
struggle. There is with them a
strange and significant redundancy
of the inquiry, "When do you think the
war will end?" Our opinions were
sought eagerly, as if their minds were
in great perplexity on the subject.
Our assurances, our reasons, or our art
of putting them, seemed to have great
weight. We were of course frank to
admit some of the advantages which
they claimed for their side. We met,
of course, a great number of the ideal
"fire-eaters"—men who keep protest-
ing that the "last man, last woman,
and last child will die in the last ditch
rather than live again under the
Union." Extravagant and hot-head-
ed terms of denunciation are dealt out
upon the North and the Yankees, as
they collectively call all not included
within the so-called "Confederacy."

CAN THEY BE SUBJUGATED?

Much more reliable and more sug-
gestive is the calmer converse of some
who have their interests largely involv-
ed in the government—men who
have fought on half a dozen battle-
fields—who have spent thousands in
aid of the cause—who have been rob-
bed, despoiled, and driven from their
homes; when these men, in sober and
painful confidence, say that such a
thing as subjugation is possible, and
that two alternatives are left them, "to
die or leave the country," we may
gain an insight into their desperation
and their fears. This sort of expres-
sion is not, as may be supposed, an ac-
cidental or casual way of talking. It
prevails—we have received letters
from dozens of these officers and men
of property who at the close would ac-
knowledge that a conquest might come,
but with a "high Roman fashion" in-
sisted that they could not be parties to
it. It is a truth that many of these
have accustomed themselves to look
for and think of such a denouement,
while all the while, to the masses, they
are crying never, never!

V.—RICHMOND.

As soon as we descend into the plains
of beautiful Virginia we observe the
change in all that distinguishes an old
from a new country. Richmond is a
model of that exterior respectable con-
servatism which is the chief boast of
that people. It is in its natural site,
one of the most picturesque places in
the world. Richmond of to-day is, how-
ever, the Richmond of two years ago
turned out of doors. With the seat of
government came also the troops of
sharpshooters, gamblers, politicians,
and adventurers, from which the South
was never free. The hotels are uncom-
fortable, and do not count comparison
with the hotels of even Washington.
On the streets may be seen the same
scurvy of tawdry men and women, a
little the worse for wear. Handsome
women we saw, however, whose fash-
ion could hardly adorn. The stores
are still open and equally crowded,
but the shelves are very lean and bare.
There is a certain effort at dress on
the part of the military, but it is far
from a success. The vehicles are
faded and shabby; the horses poor and
jaded; the streets, naturally beautiful,
neglected and overrun with war traces.
Some of the private residences look
quite old and comfortable.

LIBBY PRISON.

We were not permitted to observe
much of this sort of thing, our resi-
dence in Richmond being mainly con-
fined to one building, and, in fact, to
one room in the Libby Prison, a hotel
somewhat famous for its extensive
patronage by northern guests. The
prison was comparatively empty when
we entered, about a hundred and
twenty of the officers taken at the
late battle on the Rappahannock be-
lieving the occupants. From that morn-
ing we were rapidly inducted into the
mode and substance of prison life.
We had heard tales of horror concern-
ing this same prison, but were agree-
ably disappointed in finding it less bad
than we had pictured in our imagina-
tion. It is bad enough—too bad for
an officer of any army. Yet we sup-
pose it is very similar to those used
for the same purpose in the North;
though we hope, for the sake of hu-
manity, that it is not better in treat-
ment. Of Capt. Turner we have
nothing but praise, but the system of
which he is the mere instrument is
faulty.

PRISON LIFE.

On entering we are searched, our
money taken for safety, and all arti-
cles contraband of war confiscated.
As we came into the confederacy al-
most nude we passed easily. Once
domiciled in the long room under the
roof, a classification takes place into
messes. The individuality of our
party of four was merged into No. 14,
and thereafter, for all the purposes of
rations, discipline, or duty, we were
No. 14. Each mess draws and pre-
pares its own food, which, in our

case, was a veritable "mess" in a
"mess." We cannot but deem this
obligation to cook one's own food in
prison as an indignity. Such a thing
may do well enough for an amateur
in a well-appointed kitchen or even in
the tented field, but with such imple-
ments as are afforded at the Libby it
is an outright torture. We had no
beds. This hardship was one we
were insured to by camp life; but little
bedding. We had to clean our room
and vessels, and were not permitted
so much as to stick a head out of the
window on penalty of being shot.

The ration is large enough, larger
than that furnished to the confederates
of the same rank. We cannot but
think it a punishment that persons are
obliged to cook with wretched imple-
ments their own food. Imagine a na-
tional colonel with his hands in the
dough, the dainty staff officer detailed
to clean pots and kettles, or the deli-
cate *Tribune* correspondent, broom in
hand, set to scrubbing floors!

One source of amusement is unfail-
ing—reading the newspapers; and
another, chaffing with the visitors.
We were delighted to hear the *repara-*
tee of a lieutenant one day, on being
threatened with hanging as retaliation
for Burnside's executions. "Well,"
says he, "we can stretch hemp as well
as long as your officers, anyhow." The
singing of "Old Hundred" called
down the special comment of the
Richmond papers, who denounced it
as rank blasphemy on the part of the
northern infidels and heretics. A few
passengers from a very old sermon
might be recommended to this editor
with advantage.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

The subject of exchange next came
up, and true to our professional in-
stincts, we commenced jointly writ-
ing letters. Our parole, we were
told, amounted to nothing. On the
sixth day of our confinement, how-
ever, we were, at the instance of Mr.
Ould, the rebel commissioner of ex-
change, liberated, with the freedom of
the city. In reply to my repeated
entreaties for my fellow-prisoners and
co-laborers, one of whom was unwell,
I could gain no satisfactory account,
further than that the other two gen-
tlemen were retained. The commis-
sioners spent some time in assur-
ing me of the bad faith of our govern-
ment in detaining guerrillas contrary to
agreement, and in withholding prisoners
of war. He admitted a tremen-
dous advantage in our possession of
so much of their territory, and profess-
ed himself very reluctant at what had
seemed to be a necessary and bloody
retaliation. We did not depart, how-
ever, without hope of their speedy re-
lease.

The number of prisoners thus wrong-
fully kept in the North he alleges is over
three thousand. If this be true it calls
for redress. He mentioned the names
of some prominent Virginians who
are held on no other ground than their
political opinions. In return we pressed
the fact that in the South there are
a few, possibly a hundred, in like con-
dition, men who are languishing in
jails, and dying of cruel treatment.
Alleged desertion is the most fruitful
cause. Could not a couple of commis-
sioners be appointed with power, each
empowered to visit the territory of the
enemy, explore his jails, collect evi-
dence of the guilt or innocence of the
victims, and report to their govern-
ments?

THE CAPITAL.

The rest of the day, in the chap-
erage of a most courteous gentleman,
I spent in visiting the town and its at-
tractions—the Capitol, water-works,
Hollywood, and the department of
fices.

The business of exchanging officers
has been placed in the hands of Col.
Ould on the one side and Col. Lud-
low on the other, the former with
Maj. Norris, C. S. A., as his assistant,
and the latter with Maj. Mulford, U. S. A.
These gentlemen I believe are work-
ing constantly and earnestly to
effect a liberal and just exchange.

The streets are gay enough for a
capital semi-besieged. The houses,
old-fashioned and substantial, are
more comfortable in their appoint-
ments than I expected. The park is
crowded nightly with spectators to
witness some regimental drill and li-
sten to the band. The President is
infirm in health and is said to be in
danger of losing his sight. There are
many Marylanders staying in the city
waiting "to go home."

The darkness is darker than the
brightness is bright. The most im-
portant as it is the most solemn fact
of all that is told in the record of the
centuries. *Thirty thousand burials*
within two years, and of these nearly
all are from the hospitals! Holly-
wood Cemetery is crowded with
strangers, but more than this number
have found resting places in the beau-
tiful hills and dales of "Old Virginia."
She may be called "Aceldama," the
field of blood. Mourning all around!
One of the most touching sights of the
whole of our observations is to see
troops of young wives and mothers in
procession to the cemetery with gar-
lands and flowers which first were
destined for the festival.

VI.—THE REBEL ARMY.

It will be very natural that I should
speak of one military aspect of the
South, inasmuch as it is a subject up-

on which they lavish much thought and
pride. The rebels believe and affirm
that they have the best army and the
bravest soldiers in the world. There
is enough of truth and enough of fal-
shood about the remark not to treat it
as a jest. The military spirit and
power and organization of the South
is to my mind something marvelous.
The wonder is not that they have not
done more, but that they should have
been permitted to do so much with so
little. Their success (such as it is)
lies in our defect as much as in their
excellence. The odds were on our
side largely in the beginning, but they
have really and palpably lessened
them—a relative gain. It is true that
some of their means have been ques-
tionable and such as we could not af-
ford to practice, but this must be esti-
mated both as a phenomenon and as
so much military capital. Officers
pay more study to the profession; the
men are like the French, either more
easily inspired with martial zeal, or
like the Cossacks, less capable of
choice or judgment. The officers,
however, are more thoroughly wed-
ded to the use of arms. It has become
the work of their lives. This may be
by the force of circumstances, and
only the work in which their energies
are bent. Of this necessity they make
a virtue. There is no intense and
never-wearing talk of war, warriors,
plans, battles, movements, fortifica-
tions, &c. The chief officers mani-
fest a more intimate acquaintance with
the nomenclature and terminology of
the art than do the same ranks in our
army. The men have a (blind) but a
more enthusiastic attachment to their
leaders and the corps, amounting in the
eye of an outsider almost to a famil-
iarity.

RECOURSES OF THE SOUTH.

Circumstances also do much to
keep them together as an organiza-
tion. The confederacy is one vast
camp. To every man of sound limb
it is one's privilege to say, "What
regiment do you belong to?"

MILITARY SPIRIT.

That they should have been able to
make every male between the ages of
fifteen and fifty (exceptions noted) a
soldier of the state, and drove into the
ranks nearly the whole able bodied
population is a remarkable stretch
of power in the history of republics, and
a potent engine of war. To any one
who has seen the wheels and springs
by which this has been accomplished
it is not mysterious but strange. That
they have been able to carry and force
their men into many desperate battles
without more symptoms of demoraliza-
tion is also remarkable, as is the fact
they can use so large a proportion of
conscripts with so much impunity.

That there is a certain aptitude for
arms among these people is true.
Whether this is to be set down to
their credit as men and citizens may
be questioned; but as a national or
belligerent advantage it is undoubted.
The mass of these men have fighting
more than we do. The people, their
provisions, their roads, their houses,
newspapers—all are at the call of the
State. Like the intrusive and protec-
tive system of France the govern-
mental finger in the smallest pie.
What sympathies could not be enlist-
ed were few enough to be ignored.
All things, the law itself, bend to the
imperious "military necessity." In
material they commenced with little,
but have by one expedient and another
gotten a larger stock. The first
Bull Run was a godsend to them;
since then they have imported large
and small arms and ordinance stores
in quantities in exchange for cotton.
Clothing they still lack, but one can-
not but see that neither in the field
nor in society do the clothes make
the men. In equipments they are
short, but here again they have hit
upon a wonderful expedient to use
less. Medicines they are scant of—so
much the better perhaps. The health
of the men at this season, although the
food is coarse and scanty, is on the
average as good as our own.

OPERATION OF THE BLOCKADE.

The blockade has been and is a
damaging injury. It is useless for
them to talk, as they do, about the de-
velopment of manufactures in their
midst. All such are factitious, and
will subside at the first dawn of peace,
as it needs no Adam Smith to fore-
tell. The whole South is living in the
plainest way, in many things having
reverted to the necessities and prac-
tices of the earliest pioneer settlers.
Some commodities there are in man-
ufactures which rank almost as neces-
saries. A spoon of thread, for exam-
ple, costs a dollar in some parts of
South. The impatience of the South
in the elements of a self-sustenance
and a long war is seen most clearly in
the railroad. Although they appro-
priate all the rolling stock of the re-
bel states, and draw it back as the re-
quirement, the roads South are in shabby
order. All along the road-sides and
at the termini can be seen the wreck
of cars and locomotives. The road
beds, never good and much used, are
kept in poor repair.

DISCIPLINE OF THE ARMY.

Here again the injury of the block-
ade has a compensatory advantage.
Whisky is a scarce article in the re-
bel camp. We saw little or no drunk-
edness among soldiers and officers.
The usual price is a dollar a dram for
whisky, so that to have a moderate
screw a private might spend three

month's wages. The pay of the men
and officers is about the same as our
own, the cost of living much dearer;
the consequence is they must ex-
pend their accumulated substances or
live more plainly. This they do both
in food and raiment. In clothing, in-
deed, this is very apparent. Upon
returning to our own lines each officer
(not in the open field) seems as if he
were dressed for a court ball. It is a
mishap to call their apparel "uni-
form," it is multifarious and patchwork,
patched up of odds and ends, the pre-
vailing tone being a sort of stone gray
and russe color; it is coarse home-
made cloth with all manner of devices
to add to the insignia of rank. It is
evident that they have made large use
of capsters in this respect. Too
many of their men and officers are
wearing our blue coats and pants—
taken from us. In this we cannot re-
taliate.

MOBILITY OF FORCES.

Another remarkable feature of their
armies is their mobility. They are
unencumbered with such a vast
amount of baggage, stores, tents and
camp chests. They have no sleds,
and consequently no government trans-
portation is used in this traffic.
The rapidity with which they can
march is surprising to us, but